

PELTA QUATREFAGES, 1844, OR RUNCINA FORBES, 1851
(GASTROPODA): TWO COMPETING NAMES FOR A PLACE
ON THE OFFICIAL LIST. Z.N.(S.) 580

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This new edition of a proposal first presented to the Commission in 1951 seeks to put an end to the uncertainty as to whether the name *Pelta* Quatrefages, 1844, or *Runcina* Forbes, 1851, is to be made the valid one for the opisthobranch genus in question.

2. As a subgenus of the pulmonate genus *Succinea*, Beck (1837, *Index Moll. Mus. Ch. Fred.*: 100) mentioned "*Pelta* B. 1) *P. Cumingi* B. Juan Fernandez". No other description or indication being given, these names are nomina nuda.

3. Quatrefages (1844, *Ann. Sci. nat.*, Paris (Zool.) (3)1 : 151) described an animal under the generic name *Pelta*, designating *Pelta coronata* n.sp. as its type. Forbes (in Forbes & Hanley, 1851, *Hist. brit. Moll.* 3 : 611) named that same genus *Runcina*, with the sole species *hancocki* n.sp. as the type. As a synonym, Forbes mentioned "*Pelta* sp.? Alder & Hancock". By 1857, J. E. Gray (*Guide Syst. Distr. Moll. Brit. Mus.*: 205) had already established a family name RUNCINADAE for the genus *Runcina*. Jeffreys (1869, *Brit. Conch.* 4 : 14) was the first author to use the correct spelling RUNCINIDAE.

4. The name *Runcina* was in general use in all parts of the world until [Winckworth] (1931, *Plymouth mar. Fauna* (ed.2) : 267) revived the forgotten name *Pelta*, at the same time changing the family name to PELTIDAE. Since then, all British authors seem to have followed Winckworth, but in all other parts of the world *Runcina* remains in general usage (e.g., Wirz-Mangold & Wyss, 1958, *Fauna mar. Pyren. orient.* 3 : 10; Baba & Hamatani, 1959, *Publ. Seto mar. biol. Lab.* 7 : 281; Haefelfinger, 1960, *Rev. Suisse Zool.* 67 : 330; Taylor & Sohl, 1962, *Malacologia* 1 : 11). On the other hand, the specific name *coronata* Quatrefages became generally accepted by all authors involved.

5. It is found, therefore, that the correct name under strict priority is *Pelta* for the genus, and RUNCINIDAE (corr. of RUNCINADAE) for the family. Usage of *Pelta*, but also of PELTIDAE is general within the British Isles, but nowhere else. Thus, the plenary powers must be used one way or another in order to reach a sensible solution of the whole problem, either by setting aside the priority of *Pelta*, or of RUNCINIDAE. I myself somewhat favour the idea of adopting *Runcina*, both because of usage and because no family name problem then exists, but in order to remain as neutral as possible I present two alternative sets of proposals, as follows.

Alternative A

The Commission is requested:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to suppress the generic name *Pelta* Quatrefages, 1844 for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy;

- (2) to place the generic name *Runcina* Forbes, 1851 (gender : feminine), type-species, by monotypy, *Runcina hancocki* Forbes, 1851, on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology;
- (3) to place the specific name *coronata* Quatrefages, 1844, as published in the binomen *Pelta coronata* [the oldest available name for the type-species of *Runcina* Forbes, 1851] on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology;
- (4) to place the family name RUNCINIDAE (correction of RUNCINADAE) Gray, 1857 (type-genus *Runcina* Forbes, 1851) on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology;
- (5) to place the generic name *Pelta* Quatrefages, 1844 (as suppressed under the plenary powers in (1) above) on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology;
- (6) to place the family name PELTIDAE [Winckworth], 1931 (type-genus *Pelta* Quatrefages, 1844) (invalid because of the name the type-genus has been suppressed under the plenary powers) on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology.

Alternative B

The Commission is requested:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to suppress the family-group name RUNCINADAE Gray, 1857, for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy;
- (2) to place the generic name *Pelta* Quatrefages, 1844 (gender : feminine), type-species, by original designation, *Pelta coronata* Quatrefages, 1844, on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology;
- (3) to place the specific name *coronata* Quatrefages, 1844, as published in the binomen *Pelta coronata* (type-species of *Pelta* Quatrefages, 1844) on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology;
- (4) to place the family-group name PELTIDAE [Winckworth], 1931 (type-genus *Pelta* Quatrefages, 1844) on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology;
- (5) to place the family-group name RUNCINADAE Gray, 1857 (type-genus *Runcina* Forbes, 1851) (as suppressed under the plenary powers in (1) above) on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology.